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bottom of the ladder, and the education which he has acquired has fitted him for but few vocations. The technical school has opened a new field for the highly-educated, but it is far from true that the college course, as it has usually been understood, insures the average graduate against "poverty and distress." Very much, indeed, all depends upon the man.

THE PART OF PEACEMAKER.

The past week has witnessed a great change for the better in the Chinese situation. A week ago the Emperor of Germany seemed determined upon a policy that would have compelled the setting up of a government in China by the powers with courts for the trial of the leaders in the hostilities and barbarities practiced upon foreigners. If the German government and one or two other powers had insisted upon that policy, a division among the powers would have resulted, which would have been most unfortunate. The United States government could not uphold the policy of at once punishing the leaders of the disturbances and violators of treaties, since to establish any sort of tribunals in China would involve extended occupation of the country or such portion of it as can be reached. On the other hand, the failure of the powers to agree upon a line of action would have encouraged the Chinese to more determined resistance.

When the proposition of Germany was made known to President McKinley he lost no time in informing the Emperor's representatives that the United States would not agree to it or join in any policy that might take from China the right to punish those who have offended, because it is the policy of the administration to build up and sustain a native government in China which will not array itself against the powers. It would seem that the good sense of the German Emperor has caused him, on the representation of the United States, to reconsider his proposition and join the other powers in adopting the line of action set forth by Secretary Hay weeks ago. It will be remembered that the diplomats whose tactics is dilly-dallying sharply censured the administration a week ago because, without delay, the German Emperor was informed that the United States would not take part in the policy which he had proposed. Such diplomats contended that more time should be taken, and that silence like that of the British government would have better befitted the government which is so new in world-wide politics. It now appears that the prompt expression of disapproval was the determining factor in bringing about the change in the Emperor's plan. There is reason why it should. He knows that the United States has no other object in China than to care for American citizens and their interests. That done it desires to leave China to be ruled by the progressive element. Germany and the other powers know that the United States is not in favor of and will not make an alliance with one or two other powers to the detriment of the others. They believe that the administration desires that all the nations shall have equal rights in China, standing now, as when Secretary Hay made his treaty, for the "open door."

The ground taken by the administration is that negotiations should be begun at once with the commissioners named representing the liberal element, that the new treaties make the lives of foreigners in China secure by the punishment of such ringleaders as Prince Tuan. This done, it will be a long time before a Chinese Emperor will permit the murder of foreigners in China. The powers have adopted the original proposition, which is so important that the best informed style it a great triumph for American diplomacy. It is not great simply because the powers have accepted it, but because it is a wise and beneficent policy, insuring peace in China and between the powers. Those who have been predicting a general European war over the complications in China growing out of jealousies in parceling out the country or the establishment of "spheres of influence," must now see that as prophets they did not take into consideration the influence of the new power in the world's affairs or did not estimate the potency of the influence of this government in pursuing a line of action that tended to the peace of the world. Three years ago it would have been different. The United States was not then in a position to exert any influence upon European powers, much less to dictate a policy which would make a great war between European powers impossible. The Chinese complications settled without war, it may be assumed that after such a peaceful solution of international difficulties a European war or a war between the first-class powers hereafter will be next to impossible. Thus the McKinley administration appears in world-wide affairs as a world-wide peacemaker.

THE CARNIVAL WEEK.

It is an old charge, many times repeated, that Americans take their pleasures sadly. In the sense that they do not enter into gaieties and festivities with the abandon and utter forgetfulness of serious affairs characteristic of certain foreign races on such occasions the charge was, and still is, true, but there are numerous indications that they are much more ready to enter into the spirit of merrymaking than formerly. Various causes might be assigned for this change. The increased admixture of the foreign element in the population has had something to do with it. Americans of staid English lineage have become familiar, for example, with the unaffectedly joyous manner in which Germans observe their family or public fête days, and have perhaps unconsciously acquired a leaning in the same direction. An increased and prevailing prosperity, too, has lightened the heavy pressure of care and toil and has given greater opportunity for pleasure and relaxation. The wholesome idea that busy workers in every department of life are the better for a share of recreation, and that, in fact, their physical and moral welfare positively calls for it, has also gained ground of late. But, at all events, it is certain that people turn with eagerness to whatever offers for their entertainment, and that the gayer and more cheerful the entertainment the better they like it. Theaters have multiplied within the last few years, but the crowds that flock to them want comedy, not tragedy; they want to be amused.

How completely they can enter into the carnival spirit is uncertain, the carnival being an experiment so far as Indian-

apolis is concerned, but there is no doubt that if they come they will be well entertained, even those who have not yet learned the happy secret of throwing off care and taking pleasure lightly. The carnival promoters, at least, are leaving nothing undone for their diversion. The city is now in such holiday attire as it has never before known. One might travel the world over and not see such a brilliant spectacle as Monument Place will present, with its motley "Midway," its innumerable banners and its myriad electric lights. As a glittering pageant it will be worth coming far to see. Washington street will hardly be less attractive. The various parades, including the "moral," the "grotesque and funny," and the grand procession of "boats" of fanciful device will be other features of the gayety. All these things have the merit of novelty, and few, it may be believed, can join the crowds of sightseers without feeling moved by the holiday spirit to an extent that will make them feel repaid for coming, and send them home rejuvenated, if their years are more than they like to count, and with gay and happy memories if they are of the youthful generation. Beginning with Tuesday, some special form of entertainment has been provided for every day in the week. The outlay of the carnival association and of individual citizens has been on a most liberal and unstinted scale. Residents of Indianapolis have opened their homes to their friends and are anticipating much pleasure from the occasion. The more who come to share in the festivities the greater the merrymaking. It will be a gala time, an event in the city's history. Fun, frolic and drollery will be the order of the week. All Indians are invited to join in the amusements; all who come will be welcome.

PROFESSIONAL VS. AMATEUR.

Some journalists and professional literary workers in London are making a curious complaint against publishers of periodicals. It is that the latter are taking the bread out of their mouths by inviting and using contributions from persons who have been brought into public notice for any reason, regardless of their lack of training as writers. Politicians are asked to write about public affairs, manufacturers about business, and doctors, lawyers and other specialists on subjects relating to their respective callings, while professional writers are pushed into the background and forced to do hackwork and to peddle their wares to inferior publications, or wherever they can find a market.

There is a foundation for this protest, no doubt. The custom is common with magazine publishers in this country of securing contributions from celebrities of the hour merely because they are celebrities and not because they have anything of especial moment to say, or because they can say nothing in an attractive manner. It happens that the country's clergymen in a post-farming community not far from the capital of the State of New York—a village of the name of "The Farm"—are doing the work of the literary faculty have finally produced works that have taken their place among real literature. General Grant's "Memoirs" is an illustration. He was telling the story of the war as he saw it. His mind was occupied with the incidents of those eventful years; his natural tendency in thought and expression was to straightforward simplicity; he was not concerned with literary elegance, but with setting forth the facts and opinions clearly and succinctly. As a consequence, the narrative came from his pen without a burden of superfluities and with a style that many professional writers could not equal.

But such cases are the exception. As a rule, the work of the unpracticed writer betrays itself easily to the discerning reader. When it does not, when one of the passing celebrities of the day appears as the author of an admirably written article, there is often room for suspicion that the signing of his name is his only part in it. For it is no secret that many of the newspapers and magazine contributions printed over the signatures of noted personages—actors and actresses, singers, travelers, successful business men, men and women of public or social prominence are not written by themselves, but by professional writers engaged for the purpose. This sort of production is not creditable either to the periodical which uses it or to the individual who purports to be its author. As for the real writer, he receives a pecuniary compensation perhaps more liberal than if he had sold the contribution in his own name, and has nothing to complain of save the loss of identity common to members of the journalistic profession.

Nor has the professional writer really much cause for alarm over the seeming encroachments of the contributing celebrity, who does his own writing. This sort of magazine "feature" will, no doubt, continue to have a place, owing to the theory held by some editors and publishers that public curiosity in personages of consequence justifies the use of their intrinsically valueless productions, but it will never come to pass that newspapers or magazines can be dependent on the work of amateur authors, however accomplished they may be in other directions. Contrary to the opinion commonly entertained the writer's profession is one calling for long and careful apprenticeship. It also involves some original talent for the work. Not every one who has a college education and a discriminating taste in literature can produce literature. On the contrary, the experienced and long-suffering editor of any newspaper or periodical will be ready to aver in his haste that the average college graduate with no special training as a writer cannot write a ten-line paragraph free of redundancy or other faults of grammar. The work of the practiced writer is not always free from error, of course; he falls into careless habits, he writes under the disadvantage of haste and lack of time for revision; he has defects of style of which he is unconscious. The careful editor finds abundant need for editing in most matter that passes through his hands from whatever source, but with rare exceptions he prefers the work of the experienced professional to that of the amateur or unpracticed writer. The former knows how to begin and when to stop; he has a "sense" for what is interesting, and that he presents, rejecting the unimportant. He does not indulge in useless digressions, but sticks to his text; he has an idea of form and proportion; his effort is to present his subject clearly, and his style is simple and unaffected. He may be annoyed and irri-

tated at the occasional prominence of the unskilled amateur, but so long as he produces "copy" in which he tells a story clearly, in language that does not need to be revised before it is intelligible; so long as he has an understanding of what is news or what is of general interest; so long as he can spell and punctuate correctly, just so long will he hold the palm over his apparent rivals, for commonly they do none of these things.

That is a curious story of which a correspondent of the London Mail, who is a friend of Kruger and has been with him during the past few months, tells of Webster Davis and ex-Consul Macrum. The reason this correspondent gives for the great desire of Macrum to return home is that he had \$60,000 of Kruger's gold to be used in creating a sentiment in this country in favor of the Boers. But more entertaining is that part of the story which relates to Webster Davis. The correspondent says Davis caused himself to be known to Kruger as the "secretary of state of the United States" and the man to whom McKinley is indebted for his election. The correspondent declares that Davis got \$125,000 more of Kruger's gold to create a sentiment in favor of the Boers. For a long time, the correspondent says, "President Kruger had faith in Davis, but, losing it, he left for neutral territory." The correspondent is a man who stands well, yet many will refuse to believe a story which presents the leaders of the Boer war as taking \$125,000 worth of stock in Webster Davis.

In the decorations that will adorn the city this week there is much that appeals to the senses through the eye. The effect of the artistic blending of colors is distinctly beautiful, and in some cases the grouping of the decorations has almost the effect of a picture. It is a question whether the mind is not more naturally open to enjoyment through the eye than through any other sense. Most persons have to be educated to enjoy music, and some never acquire the faculty, but a fine display of fireworks or a beautiful combination of colors is enjoyed by all alike. Probably no human being ever looked upon a rainbow without a sensation of pleasure. Whoever first spoke of "a symphony in colors" coined a happy phrase. The effect of a harmonious blending of colors upon the senses through the eye is not unlike that of harmonious music through the ear. Thousands of persons will enjoy the decorations this week and experience a pleasure from watching the kaleidoscopic electric lights which, without trying to define, they will recognize as a new and happy sensation.

Those who may have been led to believe that Governor Roosevelt's ideal of a man is something of a Rough Rider every day in the year, should read his article in the current issue of the Century on the subject of his ideals. In that article the man for whom Governor Roosevelt reserves his highest tribute is a hard working, obscure country person of whom he says:

As fine a figure as I can call to mind is that of the country clergyman in a post-farming community not far from the capital of the State of New York—a village of the name of "The Farm"—are doing the work of the literary faculty have finally produced works that have taken their place among real literature. General Grant's "Memoirs" is an illustration. He was telling the story of the war as he saw it. His mind was occupied with the incidents of those eventful years; his natural tendency in thought and expression was to straightforward simplicity; he was not concerned with literary elegance, but with setting forth the facts and opinions clearly and succinctly. As a consequence, the narrative came from his pen without a burden of superfluities and with a style that many professional writers could not equal.

Without commenting on the fallacy of this statement as a political argument the Journal has simply to say that the blasphemous allusion to the Deity stamps Mr. Bryan as a very coarse demagogue.

It is announced that out of 191 applicants for admission to Northwestern University only twenty-six were able to pass the examination in spelling and punctuation. An exchange regards this fact as highly suggestive that the practical branches are neglected in the higher schools. This is probably the case. Sometimes pupils are taught more of Roman and Grecian architecture than of the important things in everyday life. Very few people in the course of their education are given information connected with their own State government.

George Ade's "Fables."

The Journal has arranged for the publication of a series of Mr. George Ade's extremely clever humorous "fables," the second one appearing in this issue. The objection has been made to Mr. Ade's work by some literary purists that they contain much slang. They most assuredly do, but it cannot be denied that it is picturesque and effective slang. As it is in current use, and probably few readers except those who live in libraries find the terms used unfamiliar. The ready adoption of such "irregular" words into the American speech is possibly to be deplored, but there seems to be no way of preventing it, and since the language is a part of the street vernacular of the day it is interesting to see it set down in print. So embalmed it becomes, indeed, a distinct part of the literature of the time. The class of people described by Mr. Ade use the language as he uses it, and consequently his "Fables" are vivid bits of realism. In his lecture in Indianapolis, when Mr. W. D. Howells said that the American novel was being produced by the writers of short stories in various parts of the country, each one depicting a phase of life found in his particular field. In the list of writers doing this service to literature and history he counted Mr. Ade. Some of the eccentricities of speech used so entertainingly in these "Fables" will, perhaps, come into permanent and legitimate use, but probably the most of them will pass into the limbo of lost words. In embalming them, therefore, in a form which clearly shows their application Mr. Ade has, in addition to giving joy to his contemporaries, done a service to philologists of the future. He is, as most readers of the Journal know, a native Indian, his home being in Lafayette; but it is only just to say that his studies of language have been made in Chicago, and not in his own State.

A Readjusted Bible.

New York Commercial Advertiser.

It has remained for a Sunday-school teacher to make the all-time record in breaking through the immemorial custom of the churches by publishing a Bible with the New Testament first. The person who first suggested the idea to the London publishers has written

to the Rev. Dr. Buckley, of this city, that the new arrangement is the outcome of his own experience in searching out the truth and his own conviction that the Bible as it is now presented by approaching it from the Hebrew standpoint. In the introduction to the Bible, as now arranged, it is stated that "the Old Testament is meant to stand upon which the New Testament should stand, yet we have largely made it an extinguisher which puts out its light." Here is an innovation which summarizes in a few words the common view of the relative importance of the two divisions of the Bible, which has apparently escaped the serious deliberations of church courts and of the great revision committee. Probably the issue of immense numbers of New Testaments by the Bible societies is to be explained by a similar motive, the desire to avoid producing a book in which the less important, though by far the larger, part came first.

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

Force of Bad Example.

Delia strove to live by order, but she struggled now no more, since she read that Queen Victoria throws her letters on the floor.

A Society Orphan.

"Mark, doesn't young Noodlefoot do anything but stand when he calls to spend the evening?" "Oh, yes, Louise, he yawns."

Nothing to hinder.

"Do you believe a man could climb up to Pike's Peak on an automobile?" "I don't know; but, say, he could come down all right."

Scared Into Recovery.

"Henry, the doctor didn't tell you that you were threatened with appendicitis, did he?" "No, indeed, he told me that the last time, you know, and it cured the pain."

No Sympathy for Incontinence.

"Say, Jones, the minute you turn in you're asleep."

One Point Established.

"If your daughter getting on well at that fashionable Eastern boarding school?" "Well, her letters show that she hasn't improved in spelling or grammar, but, socially, she's having an awfully good time."

Disastrous Contract.

"Somebody ought to tell Bryan never to take the name of Lincoln on his lips."

Footnotes.

Opportunity knocks at every man's door; the lazy man waits for it to climb in the window.

It is hard to forgive people who encourage us to stand and talk to them until we miss the street car.

A broken friendship is much like smashed china; the disaster occurs in secret and the blame can't be placed.

Man often has friends who depend on him at times when he feels that he can't depend on himself.

Discouraging woman is one who gives a small boy a second piece of cake without asking him if he wants it.

The interesting people are those who have neither too much ignorance nor too much information.

It is a sad world in which people can't act pleasant without making other people wonder what they are up to.

Self-conceit is a disastrous human folly; no bird in mid-air ever seems occupied in admiring its own plumage.

The social world is for the energetic; indolent people like to wear old clothes and not talk unless they feel like it.

By not worrying you save your own time and the time of lots of other people who seem to think they can keep you cheered up.

LITERARY NOTES.

Paul Leicester Ford, whose marriage recently occurred, had sold of his last novel, "Janice Meredith," 24,000 copies on the day of his wedding. Ten thousand more were then on the press.

The autobiography of Abdul Rahman, the Amir of Afghanistan, which is soon to be published, is said to be exceedingly frank. Even the troubles and humors of his domestic life appear in it. It has been characterized by one of the scholars of his court who knows English.

An English critic laments the too evident fact that adjectives are now found to be too clumsy instruments—that "fair," "better than it might be," "not so bad" and so on, are usually taken as signs of the writer's weakness. "The perfect drama," "exquisite beauty" and "wonderful spiritual depth" are expected by even the third-rate novelist.

A note from the publishers of "Monsieur Deauville" contains the statement that the author, Mr. Booth Tarkington, gets his name Booth through relationship to the famous family of actors, and that this fact may explain the dramatic instincts that Mr. Tarkington possesses. In so high a degree and which are so clearly exhibited in his romance of the French prince who marries a commoner.

The last complete life of Richardson, author of "Clarissa Harlowe," was the work of a woman, Mrs. Barbauld. It was published in 1804. A new life of the novelist, also by a woman, is now in course of preparation. The writer, Miss Clara L. Thompson, has found much fresh matter for her work. She has derived it not only from Richardson's unpublished letters in the Bodleian, but also from other contemporary sources.

This paragraph from the New York Literary Collector shows how the literary brethren love each other: "A very dreadful person who purchased a copy of The Bookman at a railroad station, recently, said to us, 'The publishers ought to recognize it. It's the best kind of a book, like slang, but sometimes slang is so delightfully expressive of the feelings that it must be used.' Now, we don't do it with The Bookbinder, Mr. Bookman, and use the name in the plural." The worst of it is that a good many people will agree with the "very dreadful person."

A list of Catholic English writers of fiction has been made by the Tablet from a catalogue of summer novels. It includes P. Marion Crawford, Bernard Capes, Dorthea Gerard, Ella D'Arcy, Mrs. Parr, Adelaide Sergeant, Katherine Tynan, Conan Doyle, D. C. Burton, Lady Gilbert, Clara Mulholland, John Oliver Hobbes, Fitzgerald Molloy, George Egerton, George Moore, Mrs. F. E. Hughes, Mrs. Clemet, Shorter, Clement Scott, A. A. Beckert, Sir Hubert Jerningham, Miss Forbes Robertson, Florence Maryatt, Mrs. Clifford Ward, Justin McCarthy, William Barry, Ignatius Donnelly and a dozen or more lesser lights.

WISDOM OF CURRENT FICTION.

Death is always dignified. Life is sometimes an indignity.—The Valley of the Great Shadow.

If the Almighty had wanted woman to be corset-shaped he'd have made her so.—The Scyllus of Zola.

If so be death is a sleep, how much better to feel at the end, "I die, but I die self-approved, and justified by self."—A Friend of Caesar.

Death can occur more than once in life. The passing away of every strong emotion means a burial and a grave, a change and a resurrection.—Robert Orange.

The first appearance of a young girl in modern society are said to be comparable with "Looking Over by the Pack," as described by Mr. Kipling.—The Bacillus of Beauty.

As